

INVESTIGATIVE REPORT:

This report pertains to an investigation of the identification of the burial location, or headstone markings, of a member of the Canadian Expeditionary Force (CEF) during the Great War 1914-1921.

SUBMITTED TO:

[CWGC Canadian Agency](#)

66 Slater Street

Suite 1707

Ottawa Ontario Canada K1A 0P4

Att: [Dominique Boulais](#)

Report Date: 29 May 2015

Reason for Submission: ("X" means purpose of the report)

Casualty Identification:		Burial Information:	
Confirmed Identity	X	Burial Location Identified	
Most Probable Identity		Grave Stone Correction	X
Questionable Identity		Grave Records Correction	X
Incorrect Identity		Request for CWGC Details	
Other		Other	

Supporting Documents: (# refers to attachment number; "I" information provided)

Casualty Identification:		Burial Information:	
Carroll, Martin	i	Villers-Bretonneux Mil. Cm.	link
19 th Infantry Battalion	i	Somme, France	i
Corporal # 55818	i	Plot 6 Row D Grave 3	i
8 August 1918	link	Exhumation 18-11-1919	i
Attestation Papers	link	Cemetery Schematic	link
Service Record	link	Graves Registration Report	7
Circumstance of Death	1	Concentration of Grave	8
CEF Canada Register	2	Exhumation Location	9
War Diary Extract(s)	3	Casualty Spreadsheet	
Area Map(s)	4	Trench Map Exhumation	
Trench Map(s)	5	Grave Stone Photograph	
Possible Candidates List	6	Grave Stone Inscription	
Excluded Candidates List		Memorial Inscription/Photo	
Other		Reporting and Review	10

Summary of Findings:

The Graves Registration Report form for Plot 6 Row D Grave 3 lists an Unknown Corporal from the 19th Infantry Battalion who was killed in action on August 8, 1918. A review of all of the available information provides clear evidence that this is the remains of Corporal Martin Carroll #55818 who was killed in action near Marcelcave, France on that date. There are no other possible Corporals of the 19th Battalion that could be in that grave.

Details of Findings:

The findings are conclusive that the remains in Plot 6 Row D Grave 3 are those of Corporal Martin Carroll of the 19th Infantry Battalion, as he was the only Corporal of the 19th killed in action on August 8, 1918 and the remains were found in the same area as where he was killed.

The findings are based on the following:

1. The Circumstance of Death file (Appendix 1) reports that Corporal Martin Carroll was wounded and missing at the location of the exhumation but his exact grave site was never specified, thus he may have been lost on the battlefield or buried in a local cemetery. This was at Marcelcave, where the 19th Battalion was located on August 8, 1918. The only other Corporal of the 19th Battalion lost in action in August 1918 was Walter Heyburn #5599 who was initially buried near Fouquescourt on August 16, 1918 and once again where the 19th Battalion was located at that time.
2. The Casualty Report in Canada (Appendix 2) reports that Corporal Martin's remains were never officially recovered and that his name was therefore recorded on the Vimy Memorial, Pas de Calais, France. The latest report on the absence of any information was filed on 9-12-1920.
3. The War Diary of the 19th Infantry Battalion (Appendix 3) shows clearly that the battalion was in operation at Marcelcave and specifically in sector 62D SE V2 where the body of Corporal Carroll was exhumed. The diary reports that 147 *Other Ranks* were killed, wounded or missing on that date.
4. Nicholson Map #11 for the Battle of Amiens 8-18 August 1918 (Appendix 4) has been marked to show where the bodies of *Corporal Martin Carroll* and *Corporal Walter Heyburn* were located. They are some distance apart but in the exact area where the 19th Battalion was located on the 8th and 16th of August. Thus there is no question as to which body was in each area, leaving only Corporal Carroll as a candidate for the body found at 62D SE V2 d.2.3 as reported.
5. A trench map of the area (Appendix 5) shows clearly the location of the exhumation point relative to the Commune of Marcelcave, precisely where the 19th Battalion was located on August 8, 1918.
6. All other possible candidates for Corporals of the 19th Battalion were also checked (Appendix 6) and only Corporals Martin and Heyburn were KIA in 1918. Corporals Blows, Batterbee, Tripp and Tweedale were all reported killed on 9 May 1917, well outside the Amiens sector.
7. The Graves Registration Report (Appendix 7) from the CWGC is clear that the 19th Battalion Corporal is buried in Villers-Bretonneux Military Cemetery in Plot 6 Row D Grave 3. It is listed as an exhumation.

8. The Concentration of Grave – Burial Report (Appendix 8), also from the CWGC specifies that the UNKNOWN CORPORAL of the 19th BATTALION was placed in Plot 6 Row D Grave 3 after it was exhumed from the initial location of the remains at 62D SE V2 d.2.3. A large number of other soldiers of the 4th Infantry Brigade of the 2nd Canadian Division were also recovered at that location and moved to the Villers-Bretonneux Military Cemetery. Many of those men were from the 19th Infantry Battalion, including Lieutenant Coghlan (*not Croydon*). The Circumstance of Death report (Appendix 9) for Lieutenant Coghlan shows that location is the Midway British Cemetery, 4 miles southeast of Corbie, France. The CWGC reports the following for that cemetery under [Villers-Bretonneux](#) exhumation locations:

MIDWAY CEMETERY, MARCELCAVE, 1,400 metres North-West of Marcelcave Church, made by the Canadian Corps and containing the graves of 53 Canadian and three United Kingdom soldiers who fell in August 1918.

Action Required:

The “Investigative Report” has been prepared in accordance with the procedures and criteria set out by the CWGC, should they wish to make any changes to the commemoration details (Attachment #10).

It is the opinion of the investigators that the findings of this investigation are conclusive and that the remains located in Plot 6 Row D Grave 3 of Villers-Bretonneux Military Cemetery are those of Corporal Martin Carroll of the 19th Infantry Battalion who was killed in action at Marcelcave of August 8, 1918.

Accordingly we would request that the CWGC Commemorative Team adjust the Headstone and the corresponding records to properly commemorate the grave of Corporal Martin Carroll.

ATTACHMENT #1

Circumstance of Death for Martin Carroll at Marcelcave

1. NO.	2. RANK OR RATING	3. SURNAME	4. CHRISTIAN NAMES
55818	Corporal	CARROLL	Martin
5. UNIT OR SHIP	6. DATE OF CASUALTY	7. H.Q. FILE NO.	8. RELIGION
19th Battalion	On or since 8-8-18	649-C-1278	Roman Catholic
9. CIRCUMSTANCES OF CASUALTY		10. NAME, RELATIONSHIP AND ADDRESS OF NEXT OF KIN	
<p>"Previously reported Wounded and Missing, now for official purposes presumed to have died;</p> <p>From information available, he was instantly killed by enemy fire during an advance near Marcelcave.</p>			
11. LOCATION OF UNIT AT TIME OF CASUALTY			
NOTE:-Items 12, 13 and 14 are not to be completed until grave is permanently located.			
12. CEMETERY	13. LOCATION OF CEMETERY	14. GRAVE LOCATION	15. REGISTERED NO. OF GRAVE
Enquiry of Missing & Casualty Dept		Grave	
		Plot	
		Row	
16. PHOTOGRAPH OF GRAVE TAKEN	17. EXPOSURE NO.	18. PHOTOGRAPH OF GRAVE AND CEMETERY SUPPLIED TO	
19. FURTHER PARTICULARS ON REVERSE SIDE OF SHEET.			

Circumstance of Death for Walter Heyburn at Fransart (buried at Fouquescourt)

1. NO.	2. RANK OR RATING	3. SURNAME	4. CHRISTIAN NAMES
55999	Corporal	HEYBURN, (H.M. & Bar.)	Walter Thomas.
5. UNIT OR SHIP	6. DATE OF CASUALTY	7. H.Q. FILE NO.	8. RELIGION
19th Battalion.	16-8-18.	649-H-16091.	Church of England.
9. CIRCUMSTANCES OF CASUALTY		10. NAME, RELATIONSHIP AND ADDRESS OF NEXT OF KIN	
<p>"Killed in Action."</p> <p>During operations near Fransart, he received a shrapnel wound in the left eye followed by an explosive bullet in the right leg. His wounds were dressed by a stretcher bearer but he died while being carried to a dressing station.</p>			
11. LOCATION OF UNIT AT TIME OF CASUALTY			
NOTE:-Items 12, 13 and 14 are not to be completed until grave is permanently located.			
12. CEMETERY	13. LOCATION OF CEMETERY	14. GRAVE LOCATION	15. REGISTERED NO. OF GRAVE
		Grave	
		Plot	
		Row	
16. PHOTOGRAPH OF GRAVE TAKEN	17. EXPOSURE NO.	18. PHOTOGRAPH OF GRAVE AND CEMETERY SUPPLIED TO	
19. FURTHER PARTICULARS ON REVERSE SIDE OF SHEET.			

ATTACHMENT #2

Casualty Report for Martin Carroll (no record of burial)

Form E. 13
1897 6m. 21/5/18 D. 262

7459

Reg. No. 55818 Rank Cpl. Name Carroll, Martin 649-C-1278 File No. R.L.

Unit 19th Bn.

Date of Casualty	Nature and Place of Casualty	Next-of-Kin
on or since 8-8-18	Previously reported wounded and missing now for official purposes presumed to have died on or since...	Edward Carroll, (Father) 426 Victoria Ave., N. Hamilton, Ont.
Published on Dec List		
No. 529		
Date 16-7-19		

Unconfirmed Burial Report	Grave No.	Authority	Report of Circumstances of Casualty	
X <i>No Information as at 9-12-20</i> VIMY MEMORIAL		649-C-1278	Received from Unit	Forwarded
			Date	Ottawa
			Next-of-Kin	
			Written For	A.A.G. Written
			Date	Date
Confirmed Burial Report	Grave No.	Authority	Burial Report Advised to Ottawa and Next-of-Kin	
			Ottawa	
			Next-of-Kin	
Revised Burial Report	Grave No.	Authority	Revised Report Advised to Ottawa and Next-of-Kin	
			Ottawa	
			Next-of-Kin	

ATTACHMENT #3

Breif report on capture of MARCELCAVE by 19th Canadian
Battalion August 8th 1918.

On Zero day August 8th 1918 the 19th Canadian Battalion were all reported in their assembly positions at 3.30 a.m., shortly afterwards the enemy put down a heavy barrage in this area, causing several casualties. This barrage lasted practically through to zero hour 4.20 a.m., but without affecting the moral of the men, who promptly at zero hour commenced to advance. A very heavy mist had come down which made observation more than a few yards impossible, and direction hard to keep. The Battalion advanced steadily to its objective. At 5.47 a.m. Captain R.H. BLISS who was in charge of the attacking troops, reported our Left held up by heavy machine gun fire from the organized and strongly wired strong point at V.2.a.5.0 running North to Railway. This point had been previously given to the 14th Tank Battalion as a special place to deal with, but owing to the heavy mist the tanks detailed to assist the Battalion did not get into action until after the final objective had been gained. Captain R.H. BLISS organized our men in the locality of this strong point - attacked same - overcame the objection and continued the advance.

After the special heavy barrage on MARCELCAVE lifted at zero plus 123, Captain R.H. BLISS with Lieut. A.G. BELL, 19th Canadian Battalion and Lieut. CURRIE, 21st Canadian Battalion, and men from both the 19th and 21st Canadian Battalions rushed MARCELCAVE, and captured same with numerous prisoners, a senior Commander, his staff with Medical Officer and Chaplain. In all 35 prisoners being taken from one chateau, alone.

The 19th Canadian Battalion had one platoon on the North of the Railway advancing and keeping in touch with the 26th AUSTRALIAN BRIGADE throughout. After the capture of MARCELCAVE, the battalion advanced about half a mile in front of the village, where it immediately commenced the consolidation of a line and reorganization of the different companies. Captain R.H. BLISS'S message to Battalion Headquarters advising capture of village and consolidation was timed 7 A.M.

Battalion Headquarters during the operation was located in the Railway embankment at O.36.d.6.1, at 7.20 A.M. it reported to Brigade it was going forward and would establish itself in MARCELCAVE, it arrived there at about 8 A.M., and opened in CHATEAU V.10.a.25.80.

Casualties 4 Officers killed, and 7 wounded and 147 O.R.'s killed wounded and missing. Captures: 1 Field Gun, 29 Machine Guns and 2 Minnewerfers and about 250 prisoners.

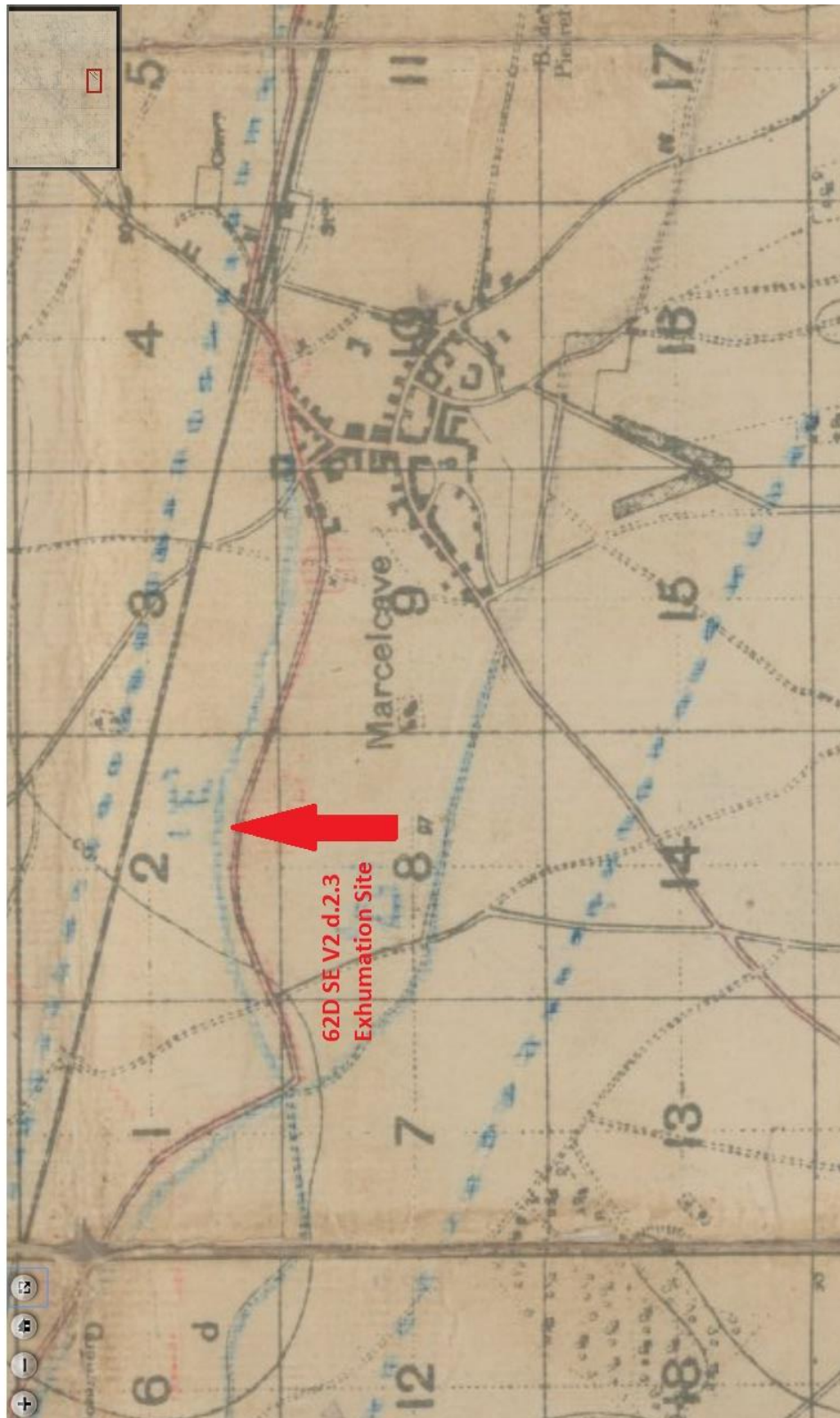
Lieut-Colonel.
Commanding.
19th Canadian Battalion.

August 9th 1918.

Villers-Bretonneux M.C. 6.D.3



ATTACHMENT #5



ATTACHMENT #6

Surname	Forename	Initials	Death Date	Battalion	Number
BLOWS	ARTHUR	A	8/5/1917	19th Bn.	'55371'
BATTERBEE	ALBERT EDWARD	A E	9/5/1917	19th Bn.	'56171'
TRIPP	GEORGE HENRY	G H	9/5/1917	19th Bn.	'135315'
TWEEDALE	GEORGE ARCHIBALD	G A	9/5/1917	19th Bn.	'55729'
CARROLL	MARTIN	M	8/8/1918	19th Bn.	'55818'
HEYBURN	WALTER THOMAS	W T	16/08/1918	19th Bn.	'55999'

ATTACHMENT #7

COMPREHENSIVE REPORT
GRAVES REGISTRATION REPORT FORM.

Commune - ~~VILLERS BRETONNEUX~~
SECTION **Fouilly** REPORT No. **2** SCHEDULE No. **23/c**
3rd A S No E/**43**

PLACE OF BURIAL **VILLERS BRETONNEUX M.C.**
All documents certified complete and correct

Land belongs to **Mapref.** **62d.O.17.c.4.5.**

The following are buried here:— **Major**
Cancels reports as stated on 1/c

Regiment	No.	Name	Rank and Initials	Date of Death	Cross Erected or Despatched	Map Reference
PLOT 6 ROW "D".						
21/EN CANADIANS	124333	SKINNER	L/C W	9.8.18	All	1 ✓
" "	713083	PETERS	PTE A R	8.8.18	crosses	2 ✓
19/ "		UNKNOWN	CPL	"	erected	3 ✓
		UNKNOWN BRITISH SOLDIER				4 ✓
CANADIAN M.G.C.	712422	ARSENAULT	PTE F	8.8.18		5 ✓
26/EN CANADIANS	715466	MCLEOD	L/C N	"		6 ✓
SUSSEX R.	2349	WISE	CPL E			7 ✓
		UNKNOWN BRIT SOLDIER				8 ✓
19/EN CANADIANS	228451	^{HN} JONES	PTE E	8.8.18	ccm/49/12031	9 ✓
		UNKNOWN BRIT SOLDIER				10 ✓
PLOT 6 ROW "E".						
		UNKNOWN BRIT SOLDIER				1 ✓
1/R. MUNSTER FUS	⁶⁷⁵⁹ 6059	MERNEY MEANEY	PTE J	2.4.18		2 ✓
R.E. 144 Coy.	175940	SYMES	L.F.			3 ✓
504/S. B.R. G.A.		MURRAY	BSM. A	22.8.18		4 ✓
1/CAV. M.G.C.	39778	WHITE	^{Cpl.} PTE W	14-4-18	ccm/CS/8/11495	5 ✓

ENTERED **27**
SLIPS CHECKED **20.1.21**

(6 31 5) W1163—P133 45,000 10/17 HWV(P722) Forms W 8872/1

ATTACHMENT #8

CONCENTRATION OF GRAVES. (EXHUMATION AND RE-BURIALS).

BURIAL RETURN.

Name of Cemetery of Re-burial VILLERS BRETONNEUX MILITARY CEMETERY 62 D O 17 0.4.3.

Plot.	Row.	Grave.	Approximate Map Reference where body found.	Was cross found on grave.	Particulars on cross found on grave.	Were any Effects forwarded to Base.
16	D	3	Sh 62 D SE V 2 d.2.3.	Yes	Opt M.H.W. WITHMORE 25th Bn. CANADA	8.8.18
16	A	5	ditto	Yes	577503 Pte J.F. McISAAC 25th Bn CANADA	8.8.18
16	C	4	ditto	Yes	M2-053109 Pte W.G. DARNELL M.T.A.S.C.	8.8.18
16	C	5	ditto	Yes	60429 Cpl J. HOLDEN 21st Bn Canada	8.8.18
16	E	5	ditto	Yes	802008 Pte A. CLARK 19th Bn do	8.8.18
16	E	5	ditto	Yes	3031958 Pte C. SALZMAN 20th Bn do	8.8.18
16	E	5	ditto	Yes	413035 Pte F. SWEET 26th Bn do	8.8.18
16	E	5	ditto	Yes	213796 Pte F. POLLARD 19th Bn do	8.8.18
16	E	5	ditto	Yes	Lieut R.B. HINGSTON 24th Bn do	8.8.18
16	C	3	ditto	Yes	454138 Pte A. BACON 24th Bn do	8.8.18
16	A	4	ditto	Yes	192149 Pte J. MONAMARA 26th Bn do	8.8.18
16	F	2	ditto	Yes	712037 Pte I. BURDETTE 24th Bn do	8.8.18
16	A	3	ditto	Yes	55749 Pte A. WRIGHT 19th Bn do	8.8.18
16	D	3	ditto	Yes	549274 Pte F.E. TYLER M.T.A.S.C.	8.8.18
16	F	3	ditto	Yes	748039 Pte S.G. PRICE 24th Bn do	8.8.18
16	D	5	ditto	Yes	712422 Pte F. ARSENAULT M.C.G.	8.8.18
16	D	5	ditto	Yes	228451 Pte E. JONES 19th Bn do	8.8.18
16	D	5	ditto	Yes	715466 L-Cpl N McLEOD 26th Bn do	8.8.18
16	D	5	ditto	Yes	713083 Pte A.R. PETERS 26th Bn do	8.8.18
16	D	5	ditto	Yes	124333 L-Cpl W. SKINNER 21st Bn do	8.8.18
16	F	1	ditto	Yes	3035140 Pte A. MITCHELL 19th Bn do	8.8.18
16	F	1	ditto	Yes	Lieut J.L. BURTON 19th Bn do	8.8.18
16	F	2	ditto	Yes	769332 Pte J.M. GORDON 19th Bn do	8.8.18
16	F	5	ditto	Yes	59375 Pte J. GOLDENBURG 4th T.M.F. do	8.8.18
16	F	4	ditto	Yes	Lieut CROYDON 19th Bn do	8.8.18
16	F	3	ditto	Yes	Unknown Corp 19th Bn do	8.8.18
16	F	3	ditto	Yes	Unknown Corp 19th Bn do	8.8.18
14	F	1	VAUX COMMUNAL CEMETERY	Yes	5076 Pte ISMAIL A. 33rd Bn AIF. KIA 27.7.18	8.8.18
13	E	8	EXTN. 62 DNE J 26 d.9.3	Yes	5597 Cpl McDONALD I.J. 51st Bn AIF. KIA 10.6.18	8.8.18
13	D	4	ditto	Yes	Lieut W. BRITT 51st Bn A.I.F. K.I.A. 10.6.18	8.8.18
13	E	5	ditto	Yes	4997 Pte PARGHAN A.D.V. 50th Bn AIF. KIA 12.6.18	8.8.18

No. 3 Adv. Sect., A.P. & S.S.

This form to be rendered in duplicate, one copy being handed to the Registration Officer and the other retained by the Burial Officer.

E.1110 3-9.

ATTACHMENT #9

20. REPORTED LOCATIONS OF GRAVE.

Villers Bretonneux Military Cemetery, Plot 6, Row F, Grave 3.

21. REMARKS.

Exhumed from: Midway British Cemetery, 4 miles South East of Corbie.

ATTACHMENT #10

This “*Reporting and Review*” attachment is provided to assist all parties in the submission of an investigative report related to the identification of the burial location, or headstone markings, of a member of the Canadian Expeditionary Force (CEF) during the Great War 1914-1921. The Commonwealth War Graves Commission (CWGC) receives a copy of this report in the event they wish to make changes to the commemoration details. In order to alter the records, the CWGC has set out their criteria for the procedure and submission of cases for review, as detailed below. The CWGC is under no obligation to make changes based on a report.

Procedure:	Guideline Criteria for Submission:
All new identification cases need to be assessed in the first instance by the Canadian Agency (CA) and submissions should go to their office directly. After an initial assessment, if the Agency feels that the case is compelling, they will then pass all the documentation to the Commemorations Team at the Commission's Head Office. Head Office will then review the case and inform the CA of their findings. The Canadian authorities will then decide whether or not any changes to the arrangements for commemoration are required and inform the Commission accordingly.	Cases need to present clear and convincing evidence to prove the identity of a casualty and must not be based on assumption or speculation. The Commission's Commemoration Team will also consider whether the findings of a better informed contemporary investigation are being revisited and if there is any new evidence to consider. By way of example, it is unlikely that the Commission would support a revision of the arrangements for the commemoration where it is apparent that no new evidence is being presented and, a better informed previous decision is being revisited some 100 years later.

The following have participated in the preparation, review and submission of this report on a voluntary basis. Those noted below have read the investigative report and compared it to the criteria set out by the CWGC, as a guiding principle, and have agreed to have their name included as part of the review team. The CWGC may contact any of the reviewers at the e-mail address provided below.

Name	Affiliation	E-mail	Contribution
Ralph McLean	Project Director South Africa War Graves Project	ralph@southafricawargraves.org	Primary Investigator
Richard Laughton	Private Researcher LMC Great War Research Company	rlaughton@laughton.ca	Report Author